Remarks:

The above amendments and following remarks are presented in response to the Office Action dated 05/23/97. Claims 1-21 are pending in the application. Claims 10-15 are allowed. Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 9, 16, 17 and 18 are rejected. Claims 3, 4, 7, 19, 20 and 21 are objected.

The Applicants have canceled all of the rejected claims without prejudice or disclaimer. Cancellation of these claims is not an admission that their limitations are anticipated or obvious over the art cited by the Examiner. Their cancellation instead reflects the Applicants' desire to expeditiously proceed and prosecute the remaining claims in this application.

Further, the Applicants have amended the claimed that were objected by rewriting them in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The Examiner has admitted that claims 10-15 are allowable over the prior art of record. In view of the above amendments, the Applicants believe they have placed the present application in condition for allowance. In summary, for the foregoing reasons, reconsideration is respectfully requested and allowance of the claims is earnestly solicited.

In the event that the Examiner has any questions regarding this amendment in particular or this application in general, the Examiner is urged to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative at the below-listed telephone number.

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James June 1/2/97

Statement Data

Respectfully submitted,

Eggleston, et al.

J. Ray Wood

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